

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application and the same are rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7, and 13 are amended. Accordingly, claims 1-18 remain in the application and are presented for review and further consideration by the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner has stated that the language in Applicant's claims 1, 7, and 13, "responsive to a back of second sheet to front of first sheet" is confusing.

In response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, and 13. The noted language now reads "responsive to discovering the destination has a 'back of second sheet to front of first sheet' OAS". It should now be clear that "back of second sheet to front of first sheet" describes the type of OAS. This type of OAS is clearly described in Applicant's specification as page 3, lines 3-6.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuchittoi, U.S. Patent No. 5,872,900. (Examiner's Action, page 3).

Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Tsuchittoi discloses rearranging a page sequence when double-side printing is activated. The page order rearrangement controller 152 of the host computer 150 checks whether two-side printing is performed (1). If so, host computer 150 transmits a page order rearrangement control instruction 300 to the printer 100. The page order determination section 115 determines a page order based on a conveyance capability resource stored in the program ROM 112. The page order determination section 115 transmits the determination result to the host computer 150 as the page rearrangement result control instruction 310. The page order rearrangement controller 152, on the host

computer 150, performs rearrangement of the order of pages to be printed. (Tsuchittoi, col. 9, lines 16-52).

Tsuchittoi does not disclose discovering an output accumulation sequence of a destination of a print job. The only sequences Tsuchittoi discloses are the page orders determined by the page order rearrangement controller 152. These page orders are the orders of pages of a print job, not output accumulation sequences of a destination of a print job. An output accumulation sequence of a destination of a print job is intrinsic to the destination. It is not a page order of a print job.

Tsuchittoi also does not disclose responding to a discovery that the destination has a "back of second sheet to front of first sheet" OAS. Nowhere in Tsuchittoi is there a disclosure of taking any action in response to discovering a "back of second sheet to front of first sheet" OAS.

In contrast, Applicant's independent claims 1, 7, and 13, as amended, include wording that an output accumulation sequence (OAS) of a destination of the print job is discovered and responsive to discovering the destination has a "back of second sheet to front of first sheet" OAS, the sheets of the print job are sequenced in reverse order. Tsuchittoi does not disclose either discovering an OAS or in any way responding to a discovery of a "back of second sheet to front of first sheet" OAS.

In view of Applicant's arguments and amendments with respect to independent claims 1, 7, and 13 being allowable, Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining dependent claims are also allowable because they contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claims and further add structural and functional limitations.

The foregoing amendments and arguments are believed to be a complete response to the most recent Examiner's Action.

No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully submitted that there is no claim, teaching, motivation, or suggestion in any of the cited art, alone or in combination, to produce what Applicant claims.

It is further submitted that the application, as amended, defines patentable subject matter and that the claims are in a condition for allowance. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should any issues remain which would preclude the prompt disposition of this case, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,
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